



News Release

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Drug allegations prompt Snohomish County dentist's suspension

OLYMPIA — State health officials have immediately suspended the license of Everett dentist. Russell Clark (DE00006917). The Dental Quality Assurance Commission and the Department of Health say Clark cannot practice safely because of overprescribing, and diversion and abuse of prescription pain medications.

Clark cannot practice in Washington until the charges are resolved.

From 2007 until 2011, charges indicate, Clark engaged in substantial and prolonged abuse of controlled substances. Charges say Clark worked in cooperation with a patient, prescribing excessive amounts of controlled substances to the patient. The patient filled the prescriptions and split the substances with Clark, charges say. Clark's conduct has caused or contributed to the hospitalization of at least one person, according to the charges.

Clark has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing. Legal documents are available by clicking the link to Provider Credential Search on the [agency home page](#) (www.doh.wa.gov) or by calling 360-236-4700.

The dental commission protects public health and safety in Washington. It licenses and disciplines dentists using standards of practice.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.